

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 3147 - SB 3015

February 16, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to seek a waiver, on or before September 1, 2012, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to allow Tennessee to include a photo of the cardholder on every electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card issued. Requires DHS to provide the Senate Health and Welfare Committee and the House Health and Human Resources Committee, on or before January 1, 2013, with a good faith estimate of the cost, pursuant to a potential waiver, of replacing every EBT card with a card containing a photo of the cardholder, phasing-in new photo identification cards issued under the current contract with the current EBT card vendor, and implementing photo identification cards once the contract with any current EBT card vendor expires. Requires DHS to, at that time, suggest a process to the two Committees that would allow a caregiver of a recipient to use the recipient's EBT card on the recipient's behalf, pursuant to the federal waiver. Directs the General Assembly to determine through legislation if it wishes to implement the waiver based upon DHS findings, if the waiver is received.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- DHS will not incur a significant fiscal impact to seek a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- Conducting the study and reporting it, with suggestions, to the requested Committees can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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